**Nationalisation of Jute Mills in West Bengal**

175. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Centre of Indian Trade Unions has again reiterated their demand for the nationalisation of jute mills in West Bengal;

(b) if so, on what grounds; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) From time to time the CITU and some other Trade Unions of Jute Industry are making the suggestion for nationalisation of jute industry. In their view such measure would help the jute farmers and the industrial workers. However, Government do not agree with this approach as this would not provide any permanent solution to the problems of the industry. Government have therefore taken a number of measures for the revival/modernisation/ diversification of jute sector covering raw jute agriculture and the industry.

**Meeting of the National Water Development Agency Society**

176. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the eighth General Meeting of the National Water Development Agency Society was held in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, what decisions were taken there at; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government in the light thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The principle decisions taken in the meeting were—

(i) A meeting between Kerala and Tamil Nadu will be convened by the Centre for reviewing the water balance studies for Pamba-Achankovil-Vaigai Link and to decide upon the further studies.

(ii) Studies of Himalayan Rivers Development component of the National Perspectives will be taken up immediately by the N.W.D.A.

(iii) The National Water Development Agency will be continued on a long term basis beyond VIII Plan.

(iv) Setting up of River Boards for strengthening the work of basin planning will be expedited.

(c) Work plans of the N.W.D.A. are being reviewed in the light of these decisions.

**Recommendation of the Indo-US Joint Business Council for the protection of intellectual property rights**

177. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-US Joint Business Council has recently recommended a three point plan for the protection of intellectual property rights;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction